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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. D.F. Cameron, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Health Inspector

J.C. Bowen, M.A.P.H.I.
Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

"Tyn-y-berllan",
Builth Wells.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Colwyn Rural District Council.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1958
.....

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Vaughan and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1958.

GENERAL.

The Colwyn Rural District is almost entirely agricultural, with a small amount of industry which is concentrated in the parish of Llanelwedd.

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

General.

Area	29,579 acres
Population....(Census 1951)	1,729
Estimated population Mid 1958	1,580
Number of inhabitated houses	484
Size of average household	3.2

The Registrar General's estimated population for the last five years is shown below:-

1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.
1,620	1,630	1,610	1,580	1,580

Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 pop.
Live Births Legitimate	13	11	24	
" " Illegitimate	-	-	-	
	13	11	24	15.1

The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 16.4.

Still Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 pop.
Legitimate.	-	1	1	
Illegitimate.	-	-	-	
	-	1	1	0.6

The still birth rate for England and Wales was 21.6 per 1,000 live and still births.

Deaths.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 live and still births
Deaths for all causes	8	3	11	40.0

Maternal Deaths...Nil
Deaths under one year...Nil

Infantile Mortality. This is the number of deaths occurring in children of under one year of age. No such deaths occurred in the district during the year. The national rate was 22.5 per 1,000 live births.

Analysis of causes of deaths.	Males.	Females.	Totals
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, bronchus.	1	-	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	1	1
Coronary disease, angina	1	-	1
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart disease	-	1	1
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	-	1	1
Suicide	1	-	1
	8	3	11

Infantile Mortality Rates.

Total rate.....0
Legitimate rate.....0
Illegitimate rate.....0
Neo-natal rate.....0

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births.....0

Maternal Deaths.

No deaths occurred which could be attributed to childbirth. This is a very satisfactory feature.

Maternal Mortality Rate.....0

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.
Public Health Officers.

No change of officers occurred during the year.

Medical Officer of Health,,.....Dr. D.F. Cameron.
Public Health Inspector.....Mr. J.C. Bowen.
(Joint appointment with Builth R.D.C.)

Laboratory Facilities.

All water samples were sent by rail to the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen. Samples for the Public Analyst at Carmarthen were sent in the same way.

Ambulance Facilities.

The district is served by ambulances from Llandrindod Wells and Builth Wells, both administered by their respective County Authorities.

Home Nursing.

District Nurses operating under the supervision of the Radnor Health Authority carried out home nursing duties.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Orthopaedic, E.N.T. and Chest Clinics are regularly held at Llandrindod Wells, and a weekly chest clinic is held at Builth Wells.

Hospitals.

There is no hospital in the district, treatment being available at the County Hospital, Llandrindod Wells, and at Builth Cottage Hospital, Builth Wells.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Adequate arrangements are in existence in the area for maternity and child welfare supervision directed by the County Medical Officer.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply.

The water supplies to the district are now administered by the Council as agent for The Builth and District Water Board. A Tender was accepted for Stage I of the Builth and District Water Scheme in November, 1958. Stage I will deal with properties in the Colwyn area only.

Public piped supplies are provided at Howey, Aberedw, Cregrina, Hundred House, Crossways and Llanfaredd. The Llanelwedd part of the district adjoining Builth Wells receives its water from Builth Urban District Council. At only one of the Council supplies is any form of treatment carried out. This is at Aberedw where the water is chlorinated.

During the year 33 samples of water were taken from the Public supplies. (20 satisfactory 13 unsatisfactory).

There were no serious shortages during the year.

In addition 2 samples were taken from various private sources or sources proposed for inclusion in private schemes.

The recently completed Rural Housing Survey indicated that only 26.4% of houses in area have a piped water supply into house from Council Water Mains.

Other Proposed Supplies.

Aberedw Farm Water Scheme.

No further progress.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Council's housing estate at Llanfaredd and the railway station district of Llanelwedd are served by small sewerage schemes. A new sewerage scheme came into operation at Howey during 1957 and during the year work continued with domestic connections and conversion of pail and other closets to water closets.

The Builth Road Station area is served by a sewerage scheme, which is controlled by the British Transport Commission.

Number of inspections made of sewage disposal works.....24
Number of inspections of new drainage Schemes.....33

Proposed Sewerage Schemes.

Aberedw.

Held in abeyance pending building of Council houses.

Hundred House.

Held in abeyance pending building of Council houses.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The scheme inaugerated in 1952, provides for the collection of refuse at fortnightly intervals, from properties along the roads throughout the greater part of the district.

Refuse was disposed of on a tip in the adjoining Rural District of Builth and at the Newbridge-on-Wye tip of the Rhayader R.D.C., who have issued consent for limited tipping at this point.

The scheme continued to operate satisfactorily.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Public Health Act, 1936. (Sections 92 and 93).
(Abatement of nuisances, repairs to properties.)

No. of complaints received.....21
No. of complaints investigated.....21
No. of premises re-visited.....15
No. of Notices served..... 2

Houses Let in Lodgings.

It is not considered that any of the houses in the district are of such a nature that they require control under bye-laws made under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1957.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is no common lodging house in the district.

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades in the district.

Licensed Premises.

No. of visits made.....7
No. of Notices served.....2

The notices served were in respect of Sanitary Accommodation at the Howey Public Houses. These premises have now provided adequate sanitary accommodation and are connected to the new Council sewerage scheme.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Only one site has been licensed under the Public Health Act. This is at Howey.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No premises were found to be verminous during the year.

Factories.

No. of factories in the district.....10
No. of visits made..... 7
Notices served..... -
Defects found..... -

Rodent Control.

This work is carried out by an operative who performs a similar duty with the Builth Rural District Council.

Number of premises inspected.....230
Number found infested..... 67
Number of premises treated..... 67
Total number of visits to premises.....366
Number of farms inspected..... 16

HOUSING.

No houses were built during the year by the Council.

Proposed Housing Schemes.
Aberedw and Hundred House.

These Schemes were held in abeyance pending decision of Council on the use of slates in place of interlocking concrete tiles.

Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. Article 31.

No representations under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957, were made during the year.

Rural Housing Survey.

The Rural Housing Survey was completed during the year and a special report on same was submitted by the Public Health Inspector. This survey revealed that 48 (9.5%) of the houses in the district were unfit for habitation and/or beyond repair at reasonable cost.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

Since the coming into operation of the Milk and Dairies Act, 1944, the Council is left with the registration and supervision of milk distributors. The results of samples taken during the year are shown below:-

Number of samples taken during the year.....11
Number of samples reported as satisfactory.....11
Number of samples reported as unsatisfactory..... -

These samples were examined for the presence of tuberculosis and brucella abortus.

A milk collecting centre operated by the Co-operative Wholesale Society is situated in the district, and throughout the year large quantities of milk passed through the centre for cooling, and were re-distributed in bulk to creameries in various parts of the country. Sanitary conditions in these premises remained very satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION.

There is one private slaughterhouse in the district. This is in the parish of Llanelwedd and is operated by a firm of whole-sale butchers.

Details of carcases inspected at this Slaughterhouse by the Council's Public Health Inspector are given below:-

No. of visits to Slaughterhouse.....217

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE AND PART.

	Cattle including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number inspected	564	10	4,310	818	-
All carcases except Tuberculosis & Cysterceri.					
Whole Carcases condemned	-	2	8	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	68	-	23	9	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysterceri	12.0	20.0	0.7	1.1	-
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	6	-

MEAT (Contd).

	Cattle including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep. Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	0.7	-
Cysterceri.					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

A great deal of the meat inspection was carried out by your Public Health Inspector outside normal working hours.

Ice Cream Premises.

No. of retailers on the register.....4
No. of inspections of premises.....8
These retailers sold prepacked ice-cream only.

Food Premises

The following food premises remained in operation at the end of the year.

Grocers.....7
Public Houses.....6
Dairies.....1
Cafes.....2

The district is also served by various mobile retailers operating from Builth Wells, Llandrindod Wells and Newbridge-on-Wye.

Food Condemned.

6 lbs. of Corned Beef was condemned and disposed of at the Gas Works.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

No legal action was taken during the year.

PREVALANCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Tuberculosis.

One new case of tuberculosis was notified to me during the year

The following cases of notifiable disease were notified during the year:-

2 cases of scarlet fever
1 case of measles.

All these cases were mild and were nursed at home. No deaths were caused by infectious disease during the year.

Yours faithfully,

(Sighed) D.F. Cameron

Medical Officer of Health.